



Atty. Dkt. No. 040447-0276

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kota IWAMOTO

Title: IMAGE SIMILARITY CALCULATION SYSTEM, IMAGE SEARCH SYSTEM, IMAGE SIMILARITY CALCULATION METHOD, AND IMAGE SIMILARITY CALCULATION PROGRAM

Appl. No.: 10/567,561

International Filing Date: 03/02/2005

371(c) Date: 02/08/2006

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation Number: 6623

Number:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be

appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The documents listed on the attached PT0/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. A partial English translation of the Japanese Office Action of July 4, 2006, follows:

Record of Prior Art Search Results

Searched field IPC

G06T7/00 – 7/60

G06K9/00 – 82

Prior Art JP 10-112834

 JP 2001-245269

 JP 08-298659

This Record of Prior Art Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.

Document B1 is a U.S. counterpart of Document B2.

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PT0/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 5, 2006

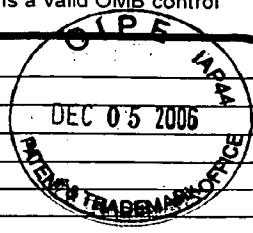
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| Substitute for form 1449/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: December 5, 2006 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Application Number 10/567,561 Filing Date 03/02/2005 First Named Inventor Kota IWAMOTO Art Unit 2624 Examiner Name Unassigned | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number 040447-0276 | |



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| /A.W./ | B1 | 6,801,663 | 10-05-2004 | MATSUSHITA et al. | |
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UNPUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Application Document | Filing Date of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | | Serial Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| /A.W./ | B2 | JP 2001-245269 | 09-07-2001 | Y. AYATSUKA | | A |
| /A.W./ | B3 | JP 10-112834 | 04-28-1998 | NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPHONE CORP. | | A |
| /A.W./ | B4 | JP 08-298659 | 11-12-1996 | NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPHONE CORP. | | A |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ⁶ |
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|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Examiner Signature | /Akililu Woldemariam/ | Date Considered | 04/01/2011 |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.